

NEWS

From Supervisor Bill Postmus First District, San Bernardino County



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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POSTMUS CALLS PUBLIC HEARING ON APPLE VALLEY AIRPORT

APPLE VALLEY – San Bernardino County Supervisor Bill Postmus today announced that he will hold a public hearing on the Town of Apple Valley's proposal to assume operation of the Apple Valley Airport with tax dollars reallocated from the county.

The public forum will be held May 24 at 6 p.m. in the Aster-Cactus Room of the Desert Mountain Educational Service Center, located at 17800 Highway 18 in Apple Valley.

"Many airport users and local community officials have expressed a variety of opinions about the Town of Apple Valley's proposal to take over operation of the Apple Valley Airport," said Supervisor Postmus. "My intention in holding this meeting is to give the public a chance to provide input, and for me to have the opportunity to hear directly from those who would be most affected by any change in the airport's governance."

The Apple Valley Airport is currently operated by the San Bernardino County Department of Airports with tax support from the 1,730-square-mile County Service Area 60, which is governed by the Board of Supervisors. The service area includes all of Apple Valley, Adelanto, Hesperia and Victorville, a small portion of Barstow, and a significant amount of unincorporated areas.

The Town of Apple Valley has asked the county's Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) to dissolve the county service area and allow the Town to operate the airport with tax revenue reallocated from the county service area. Two members of the Board of Supervisors are members of the seven-member LAFCO Commission, and the Board of Supervisors has jurisdiction over any change in tax allocations that would be required for such a change in governance.

On May 3, a committee selected by Supervisor Postmus that includes pilot representation and County and Town officials, voted 4 to 3 in support of maintaining County Service Area 60 and operation by the County Department of Airports.

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